

# Emerging Markets World Equity Strategy

### June 30, 2024

#### **Objective**

The Emerging Markets World Equity Strategy seeks long term compounding by focusing its investments in emerging market countries or companies that derive a majority of their revenues or assets from emerging market countries.

### Why Invest?

- Clearly defined, transparent, and consistent process
- Driven by fundamentals, supported by evidence

- Active risk management with disciplined portfolio construction
- Advancing positive change through active engagement



\*Past performance is not indicative of future results, and the principal value and investment return will fluctuate, so that you may have a gain or loss when you sell your units

## **Cumulative Returns (%)**



Strategy Facts

**Inception** July 1, 2014

**Firm Assets** \$23.8 B\*

Strategy Assets \$2.6 B\*

**Benchmark** MSCI Emerging Markets

#### Vehicles

Separate account Commingled fund CIT\*\* UCITS

## **Portfolio Managers**

Andrew Jacobson, CFA Portfolio Manager, Chief Investment Officer

**José Gerardo Morales, CFA** Portfolio Manager

\*Assets include Assets Under Management (\$23.2B) & Assets Under Advisement (\$0.6B).; Strategy Assets Under Management (\$2.1B) & Assets Under Advisement (\$0.5B). \*\*SEI Trust Company (the "Trustee") serves as the Truste of the Trust and maintains ultimate fiduciary authority over the management of, and the investments made in, the Fund. The Fund is part of a Collective Investment Trust (the "Trust") operated by the Truste. The Trustee is a trust company organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a wholly owned subsidiary of SEI Investments Company (SEI). Axiom CIT Trusts are trusts for the collective investment of assets of participating tax qualified pension and profit sharing plans and related trusts, and governmental plans as more fully described in the Declaration of Trust. As bank collective trusts, the Axiom CIT Trusts are exempt from registration as an investment company. Axiom CIT Trusts are managed by SEI Trust Company, the trustee, based on the investment advice of Axiom Investors, LLC, the investment adviser to the trusts.

Source: Factset and Axiom. There can be no assurance that the Strategy will continue to hold these positions or that weightings do not change after the as of date stated. Please refer to the attached GIPS compliant presentation for complete performance information.



## **Top 10 Holdings**

As of	6/30/24
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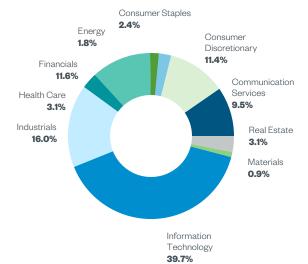
Country	Sector	% of Portfolio	% of Index	
Taiwan	Information Technology	12.5	9.7	
Korea	Information Technology	5.2	4.2	
China	Communication Services	5.0	4.2	
Korea	Information Technology	4.6	1.2	
US	Information Technology	4.0	0.0	
US	Consumer Discretionary	2.2	0.0	
Taiwan	Information Technology	1.9	O.1	
India	Industrials	1.8	0.2	
US	Communication Services	1.8	0.0	
Brazil	Industrials	1.7	0.0	
	Taiwan Korea China Korea US US Taiwan India US	TaiwanInformation TechnologyKoreaInformation TechnologyChinaCommunication ServicesKoreaInformation TechnologyUSInformation TechnologyUSConsumer DiscretionaryTaiwanInformation TechnologyIndiaIndustrialsUSCommunication Services	TaiwanInformation Technology12.5KoreaInformation Technology5.2ChinaCommunication Services5.0KoreaInformation Technology4.6USInformation Technology4.0USConsumer Discretionary2.2TaiwanInformation Technology1.9IndiaIndustrials1.8USCommunication Services1.8	

### **Risk/Return Analysis & Portfolio Characteristics (%)** As of 6/30/24

10 Year Statistics	Axiom (Gross)	Axiom (Net)	Index	
Cumulative Return (%)	72.7	56.9	31.7	
Annualized Return (%)	5.6	4.6	2.8	
Annualized Excess Return (%)	2.8	1.8		
Batting Average (% Quarterly)	70.0	62.5		
Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	16.6	16.6	17.1	
Tracking Error (%)	4.8	4.8		
Information Ratio	0.6	0.4		
Annualized Sortino Ratio	0.4	0.3	0.1	
Upside Capture (% Quarterly)	136.0	126.6	-	
Downside Capture (% Quarterly)	99.1	100.6	-	
Upside Capture (% Quarterly)	136.0	126.6	- -	

	Axiom	Index
Holdings	121	1329
% in Axiom Top 10 Holdings	40.6%	19.7%
Weighted Average Market Cap (\$B)	\$364.6	\$155.8
Median Market Cap (\$B)	\$17.8	\$7.6
Liquidity (\$M/Day)	\$2,348	\$303
Net Debt/Equity Ratio	3.2	11.7
Price Earnings Ratio (forward)	17.6	12.1
Earnings Growth Rate (forward)	38.9	25.9
PEG Ratio (PE/Growth Rate)	0.5	0.5
Wgt. Avg. Carbon Intensity	128.5	344.8

## Sector Exposure (%)



## **Regional Exposure (%)**



Index: MSCI Emerging Markets

Currency: USD

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Source: Factset and Axiom.

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## Commentary

During the second quarter 2024, the Axiom Emerging Markets World Equity Strategy ("Strategy") outperformed MSCI EM Index ("Index") net of fees. The Strategy has outperformed the Index on a net of fees basis over the year-to-date, 1-year, 5-year, and since inception periods.

Global growth has shown signs of deceleration recently. The US economy has begun to soften, as labor conditions are showing the first hints of weakening, consumers are exhibiting increased price sensitivity, and the US housing market remains sluggish. China, which initially showed signs of an uptick around the Chinese New Year holiday, has also since demonstrated evidence of weakening. In particular, the ongoing property crisis continues to weigh heavily on consumer activity in China. Elsewhere, India remains the most noteworthy exception to the general global growth headwinds as the positive trends seem intact with Modi's coalition set to continue its growth-oriented policies post his re-election. Unlike in India, the recent election in France as well as the pending elections in the UK and US are adding uncertainty to the economic outlook for those major economies. Turning to inflation, pricing trends continue to moderate globally, following some mixed signals during the early part of the quarter. The early quarter inflation concerns were partly due to the impact of the conflict in the Middle East on global shipping rates, as well as to the delayed effects of earlier inflation on regulated prices such as for insurance and utilities. Axiom's global perspective helped us correctly identify the persistently moderating broader inflation trends, as we have been highlighting for nearly two years. This underlying trend of moderating inflation globally reasserted itself towards the end of the quarter, supporting a continued positive outlook for global monetary easing. In fact, the global easing cycle continues to gather pace despite the interest rate cycle in the US being delayed and curtailed, with only 1-2 cuts anticipated by the US Fed this year (down from 4-6 at the start of the year) and initial US cuts not expected until the fall at the earliest. Globally, interest rate cuts year-to-date now exceed hikes by a ratio of more than 3 to 1, with this trend toward global rate cuts in evidence since the middle of last year as cuts started to exceed hikes beginning in the summer of 2023.

The highest contributing sector on a relative basis during the quarter was information technology, led by top performer NVIDIA, SK hynix, and Taiwan Semiconductor. Other top contributing sectors included industrials, due to positive performance from Bharat Electronics, HD Hyundai Electric, and Polycab India, and consumer staples, led by Varun Beverages and Eastroc Beverage. The largest relative detracting sectors for the quarter were financials, consumer discretionary, and real estate.

The highest contributing country on a relative basis was Korea, driven by SK hynix and HD Hyundai Electric. Other top contributors included the United States, led by NVIDIA and MercadoLibre, and India, due to Bharat Electronics, Polycab India, and Siemens. Indonesia, South Africa, and Mexico were relative detractors for the guarter.

From an individual stock perspective, the highest relative contributors for the quarter were NVIDIA, SK hynix, Bharat Electronics, Taiwan Semiconductor, and HD Hyundai Electric. The largest detractors on a relative basis were Alchip Technologies, Banco BTG Pactual, Hon Hai Precision Industry, CEMEX, and Bank Rakyat.

Public equity earnings trends continue to be attractive notwithstanding the cooling global GDP outlook. Easing cost inflation combined with innovation fueled topline growth are underpinning equity performance. The global earnings revisions ratio, measuring the ratio of earnings forecast upgrades to downgrades, rose to the highest levels since January 2022, with improvements across most regions and sectors. The earnings revisions ratio now materially exceeds the long-term average, which tends to be a positive signal for equities. Moreover, Axiom's Emerging Markets World Equity Strategy has benefited from significantly better earnings growth and revisions than the Index. Thus, the Strategy's strong performance has been supported by equally robust earnings growth, such that the PE to Growth (PEG) ratio is lower now than at the start of the year and remains at a level that has historically proven to be attractive. Investments benefiting from the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) continue to be an important focus of our strategies, as discussed in detail last guarter. Many of these investments performed notably during the quarter and ended as large positions on the back of this strong appreciation. Our ongoing work monitoring operating trends, consensus expectations, sustainability, and valuation all suggest, in our view, significant further upside for these holdings, although we did crystallize some gains in certain portfolios where appropriate. Beyond Al, we also saw strong contributions from our investments in companies delivering differentiated high-value solutions to increasingly selective and discerning consumers. Looking forward, we are finding increasing potential opportunities in non-China Asia and anticipate adding some investments in those regions. The Axiom investment team continues to collaborate closely to ensure that our strategies are positioned to prudently manage evolving risks while continuously seeking to capture market opportunities. Our portfolio companies remain well-positioned for sustained success, underpinned by strong company-specific earnings drivers, upside catalysts, healthy balance sheets, high returns, and robust cash generation. We believe these characteristics not only make our holdings long-term return compounders but also resilient to volatility in GDP growth. We remain focused on delivering superior long-term returns to our investors by executing our disciplined approach to carefully selecting what we believe are high-quality, wide- and expanding moat dynamic growth stocks.

The information presented is not definitive investment advice, should not be relied on as such, and should not be viewed as a recommendation by Axiom. The securities presented are not representative of all of the securities purchased, sold or held for advisory clients, and it should not be assumed that investment in the securities identified was or will be profitable

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#### **Footnotes and Disclaimers**

	Composite return (gross of fees)	Composite return (net of fees)	Benchmark Total Return	No. of accounts	Market value (millions)	Total firm assets (millions)	% of firm assets (%)	Internal dispersion (%)	Composite 3-year standard deviation (%)	Benchmark 3-year standard deviation (%)
YTD '24	18.01%	17.46%	7.49%	8	2,131.5	23,222.9	9.18	N/A	16.94	17.55
2023	11.48%	10.42%	9.83%	8	1,900.1	19,915.6	9.54	0.66	16.05	17.14
2022	-30.21%	-30.90%	-20.09%	10	1,924.3	16,580.9	11.61	0.33	19.95	20.26
2021	-0.71%	-1.66%	-2.54%	8	1,634.8	18,639.7	8.77	0.48	18.10	18.33
2020	34.07%	32.81%	18.31%	8	1,876.2	18,535.9	10.12	N/A	19.65	19.60
2019	25.67%	24.49%	18.42%	6	1,268.6	13,458.1	9.43	0.09	14.33	14.17
2018	-16.00%	-16.82%	-14.58%	≤5	1,118.5	9,729.2	11.50	N/A	14.42	14.60
2017	44.13%	42.76%	37.28%	≤5	221.6	12,116.0	1.83	N/A	13.87	15.35
2016	7.09%	6.07%	11.19%	≤5	87.1	9,671.6	0.90	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	-7.83%	-8.73%	-14.92%	≤5	2.2	8,704.3	0.02	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014*	-5.89%	-6.37%	7.84%	≤5	2.4	9,482.3	0.02	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Non-annualized partial period performance beginning 07/01/2014

Fee schedule: First \$25 million: 1.00%; next \$75 million: 0.90%; next \$25 million: 0.80%; next \$50 million: 0.70%; Balance: 0.60%

Firm compliance statement: Axiom Investors LLC (the "Firm") claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS<sup>®</sup>) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Axiom has been independently verified for the period September 1, 1998 to June 30, 2024. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The Axiom Emerging Markets World Equity composite has had a performance examination reports are available upon request.

Definition of the Firm: The firm is currently defined for GIPS purposes as Axiom Investors, LLC (the "Firm") is a registered investment advisor under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Policies: Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request. Past performance does not predict or guarantee future results.

Composite Description: The Emerging Markets World Equity strategy (the "Composite) is designed for investors who seek to invest in a broadly diversified portfolio of emerging market equities. Portfolios are invested in the full range of global emerging markets within all capitalization sizes. Currencies may be actively managed to reduce portfolio volatility. The Composite represents the performance of all institutional emerging markets world style fee-paying, discretionary equity accounts, regardless of asset size. The Composite was initiated and oreated in July 2014. A list of composite descriptions, a list of limited distribution pooled fund descriptions, a list of broad distribution pooled funds and performance results are available upon request. As of September 30, 2016, the Emerging Markets World Equity composite.

Benchmark Description: The benchmark is the MSCI Emerging Markets index, which is designed to measure the equity market performance in the global emerging markets. The benchmark is calculated on a total return basis with net dividends reinvested, after the deduction of withholding taxes and is free float-adjusted market cap weighted and unmanaged. FX is based off London 4 P.M. close.

Significant Cash Flow Policy: Accounts with a cash flow greater than 20% of the portfolio market value are excluded for the month effective July 31, 2018.

Reporting Currency: Valuations are computed and performance is reported in U.S. dollars. FX is based off NY 4 P.M. close.

Fees: Gross of fees returns are presented before management and custodial fees but after all trading expenses. Net of fees returns are calculated by deducting the highest fee from the monthly gross composite return which is expressed above in the stated fee schedule. Returns include the reinvestment of income. Performance is calculated net of withholding taxes on dividends. The fee schedule for the Axiom Emerging Markets World Equity Fund, which is included in the Emerging Markets World Equity Composite is listed above. The total expense ratio as of December 31, 2023 was 1.44%.

Internal Dispersion: Internal dispersion is calculated using the asset-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of those portfolios that were in the composite for the entire year. If 5 or less accounts, N/A is shown.

Annualized Standard Deviation: The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. The standard deviation is not required for periods prior to 2011.

Batting Average: The number of periods that the portfolio outperforms (or matches) the benchmark divided by the total number of periods.

Tracking Error: The active risk of the portfolio. It determines the standard deviation of the excess returns between the portfolio and the benchmark. It is calculated by creating a new return series of the excess returns and then calculating the population standard deviation of that return series.

Information Ratio: A measure of consistency in excess return. The annualized excess return over a benchmark divided by the annualized standard deviation (population) of excess return.

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This may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Actual results could and likely will differ, sometimes materially, from those projected or anticipated.

We are not undertaking any obligation to update or revise any forward looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. You should not take any statements regarding past trends as a representation that trends or activities will continue in the future. Accordingly, you should not put undue reliance on these statements.

The information contained herein represents neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities or investment service. This strategy will only be offered through appropriate documents, copies of which may be obtained upon request from InvestorServices@axiominvestors.com. Offers will not be made in any jurisdiction in which the making of an offer or the acceptance thereof would not be in compliance with the laws of such jurisdiction. Investors should read applicable materials carefully before making a decision to invest.

#### Risks of investing in the strategy:

Potential loss of investment: No guarantee or representation is made that the investment program used by Axiom will be successful. The strategy represents a speculative investment and involves a high degree of risk. An investment in the strategy should be disoretionary capital set aside strictly for speculative purposes. Investors must have the financial ability, sophistication/experience and willingness to bear the risks of an investment in the strategy. An investment in the strategy is not suitable for all investors. An investment could lose all or a substantial portion of his/her/its investment. Only qualified eligible investors may invest in the strategy. Because of the nature of the trading activities, the results of the strategy's operations may be volatile from month to month and from period to period. Accordingly, investors should understand that past performance is not indicative of future results.

Fees and expenses: The strategy may be subject to substantial charges for management, advisory and brokerage fees. It may be necessary for those accounts that are subject to these charges to make substantial trading profits to avoid depletion or exhaustion of their assets.

Reliance on key persons: The strategy's manager or advisor has total trading authority over the strategy and may be subject to various conflicts of interest. The death, disability or departure of the manager or advisor may have a material effect on the strategy.

Counterparty and bankruptcy risk: Although Axiom will attempt to limit its transactions to counterparties which are established, well-capitalized and creditworthy, the strategy will be subject to the risk of the inability of counterparties to perform with respect to transactions, whether due to insolvency, bankruptcy or other causes, which could subject the strategy to substantial losses.

Volatile markets: Market prices are difficult to predict and are influenced by many factors, including: changes in interest rates, weather conditions, government intervention and changes in national and international political and economic events.

The above summary is not a complete list of the risks, tax considerations and other important disclosures relating to Axiom products or services. Prospective clients should read all disclosure documents provided by Axiom relating to its products or services before engaging Axiom's advisory services.

The information herein is only current as of the date indicated, and may be superseded by subsequent market events or for other reasons.

The Axiom Investors Collective Investment Trust is a trust for the collective investment of assets of participating tax-qualified pension and profit sharing plans and related trusts, and governmental plans as more fully described in the Declaration of Trust. The Axiom Investors Trust is managed by SEI Trust Company, the trustee, based on the investment advice of Axiom Investors, the investment adviser to the trust. As a bank collective trust, the Axiom Investors Trust is exempt from registration as an investment company.